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October 6, 1999

FDA/Dockets Management Branch
Department of Health & Human Services
12420 Parklawn Drive, Room 1-23
Rockville, MD 20857

Re: Docket No. 98P-0203/CP1

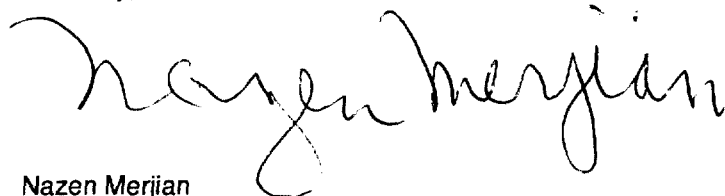
The standard molting procedure of starving birds for 10 to 14 days unavoidably stresses the birds. Their immune system is therefore suppressed and the flock's susceptibility to salmonella infection is increased.

We support banning forced molting as three fourths of Salmonella Enteritidis outbreaks are linked to eggs.

The President's Council on Food Safety seeks public input on ways to reduce foodborne illness in the nation's food supply. Banning forced molting on eggs is imperative in this endeavor.

Please grant United Poultry Concern's petition to ban forced molting.

Sincerely,

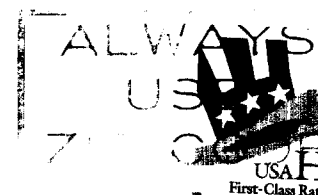
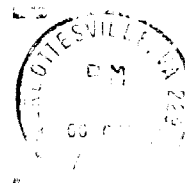


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98P-0203

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